

Co-hosted workshop  
South African Research Chair in Spatial Analysis and City Planning and  
Gauteng City-Region Observatory (GCRO)

## **COVID-19 urban impacts and governance in Gauteng**

**Venue:** GCRO Offices | 6th floor University Corner (above the Wits Arts Museum) |  
University of the Witwatersrand | Corner Jan Smuts Avenue and Jorissen Street

### **Agenda**

*8:45 – 9:00: Arrival and tea*

*9:00 – 9:15: Introductions*

*9:15 – 10:45: Contextualising Gauteng, state action and social impacts*

Prof. Richard Ballard – Spatial transformation in Gauteng

Prof. Phil Harrison and Graeme Gotz – The pandemic response in South Africa and Gauteng  
(with some comparative perspective)

Gillian Maree and Graeme Gotz – The social impacts of COVID in Gauteng: what available  
data could (and *couldn't*) show

Discussion

*10:45 – 11:00: Tea*

*11:00-12:15: COVID impacts: views 'from society'*

Sarita Gonzalez Pillay – Pandemic impacts understood through Lockdown Diaries

Brian Murahwa and Anelisa Geca – Reflections on vulnerability from the USF project  
interviews

Discussion

*12:15-12:45: Lunch*

*12:45-14:00: LUNCHTIME SEMINAR: Pandemic Urbanism and International Experiences*

Hillary Birch – The Toronto Experience

Prof. Xuefei Ren – The Chicago Experience

Prof. Roger Keil – Pandemic Urbanism

Discussion

*14:10-15:40: COVID response capacities: reflections from those who worked in and with government*

City of Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality – Reflections from Ekurhuleni

Nalini Naicker – Reflections from Gauteng's COVID-19 'warroom'

Rashid Seedat and Mawande Ngidi – Reflections on the infrastructure response to the  
pandemic

Prof. Laurel Baldwin-Ragaven – Reflections on the Gauteng health response

Discussion

*15:40-15:45: Closing thoughts and thanks*

Prof. Phil Harrison and Prof. Roger Keil